

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO. _____

TOPIC Military Information from Neustrelitz

EVALUATION _____

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PLACE OBTAINED _____

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DATE OF CONTENT 22 September to 18 October 1952

DATE OBTAINED _____

DATE PREPARED _____

24 November 1952

REFERENCES _____

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PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

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1. On 10 October 1952, the Neue Infanterie Kaserne on Penzliner Chaussee, Neustrelitz (N 54/U 54), was occupied by about 10,000 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank or artillery insignia. T-34 tanks _____ and JS tank _____ left the installation.

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2. On 10 October, the Glambecker See restricted area was occupied by a headquarters and 250 to 300 troops of all branches of service.

3. On 10 October, the restricted area on Fritz Reuter Strasse was less heavily occupied. Source believed that the troops were out for practices.

4. On 13 October, the Alte Grenadier Kaserne on Strelitzer Strasse was occupied by about 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia, black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia and black-bordered crimson epaulets. Six 120-mm mortars, 3 M-13 rocket launchers and trucks _____ were seen in the barracks yard.

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5. On 18 October, the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse was occupied by about 100 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Source thought that the troops were out for practices.

6. On 18 October, the Schlossgarten restricted area was occupied by about 500 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Motor vehicles _____ were seen in the area.

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7. On 18 October, the Schlosskoprel restricted area on Euergerseeweg was vacant. Source expressed the belief that the troops had left for practices.

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8. During the period from 22 September to 9 October, source determined that the Neue Infanterie Kaserne on Penzliner Chaussee in Neustrelitz was occupied to capacity by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank or signal insignia and artillery or motor transport insignia. Source estimated that the troops numbered not less than 10,000 soldiers. The tank unit which occupied most of the buildings of the installation and all garages was equipped with T-34 tanks, JS-1, JS-2 and JS-3 tanks and SP guns. Between 60 and 80 sidecar motorcycles were parked at the laundry of the installation since early October. No AT guns of more

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than 57-mm caliber were seen. The former drill building was furnished with triple decked cots to quarter personnel. Emergency plumbing was made available by the troops. Recruits with closely cropped hair who numbered at least 200 moved in in early October. On 27 September, 30 tanks

unloaded at the Neustrelitz railroad station. A railroadman stated that other tanks had been unloaded during the night of 26 September. 6 p.m. on 2 October, 1 officer, 1 sergeant and 40 unarmed soldiers wearing black-bordered crimson epaulets and carrying light equipment marched from the Neue Infanterie Kaserne to the Neustrelitz railroad station and departed in the direction of Neubrandenburg. They had closely cropped hair. They were later followed by a column of 40 recruits who marched from the Neue Infanterie Kaserne to the Schlossgarten restricted area.

9. On 9 October, the Alte Grenadier Kaserne on Strelitzer Strasse was occupied to capacity by 500 to 600 soldiers of a mortar unit wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. A column of 25 trucks towing mortars of about 120-mm caliber left the installation. Soldiers received training on medium two-load 80-mm mortars in the barracks yard. About 40 officers were seen engaged in a conference in the barracks yard in early October. The Komendatura which had been located in the officers' mess in the installation moved to houses Nos 5 through 7 on Twachtmann Strasse on 9 October. Source learned that an office from Karlshorst would move into the officers' mess. Three houses on Kasernen Strasse were derequisitioned leaving only houses Nos 3 to 7 occupied by officers of the mortar unit.

10. In late September and early October, the Schlossgarten restricted area was occupied by an AA unit and a rocket launcher unit wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia including some with motor transport insignia. Twelve M-13 rocket launchers were counted in late September. A resident stated that the AA unit had 16 x 76-mm AA guns. Three heavy AA guns were emplaced on the south edge of the restricted area at a hill in line with the former Land library on 2 October. They were still there on 9 October.

11. In late September and early October, the villas in the Glamberger See (lake) restricted area on the northeast shore of the Glamberger See housed offices and switchboards. Source also saw field grade officers and concluded that the division headquarters of the units in Neustrelitz was quartered there.

12. On 4 October, the restricted area on Fritz Reuter Strasse was occupied by a signal unit. the unit was a signal school which parked its vehicles in the restricted area on the west shore of the Glamberger See. Four armored scout cars without arms were seen in the garages there on 4 October.

13. On 9 October, the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse was occupied by about 600 soldiers of an artillery unit. On 30 September, 20 guns seen in the restricted area included a large number of 76.2-mm guns and a small number with a caliber of about 122-mm.

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14. In August, the Tiergarten restricted area was evacuated. Elements of the district administration occupied the area in early October. The troops moved to the former SA Sportschule, 3 km northwest of Neustrelitz. [redacted] on 9 October, the SA Sportlager quartered an engineer unit of about 20 officers and 250 soldiers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia, 12 trucks with pontoons and bridge building equipment and a tank replacement parts and supply depot with about 30 to 40 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and various insignia. The two units were separated by a wooden fence in the Sportschule. A third section of the Sportlager was used as a home for old people.

15. On 9 October, the Schlosskopel restricted area was occupied by a motor transport unit of about 250 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with motor transport insignia. Source believed that the garages had an estimated capacity of 100 vehicles.¹

16. [redacted] took a number of photographs of tanks and a rocket launcher at the Neustrelitz railroad station in the winter of 1951/1952.

1. Comment. Based on previous observations and the information contained in the present report, the units of the 9th Gds Tank Div are believed to be located in Neustrelitz as follows:

Neue Infanterie Kaserne. Three medium tank regiments, the 33d Gds Mtz Rifle Bn and the 7th Gds Rcn Bn. These units total about 6,200 soldiers. As the two sources concordantly reported that the barracks installation was occupied by about 10,000 soldiers, the excess indicated in paragraph 8 of the present report as well as other reports on transportation must be due to recruits of the Second Gds Necz Army who probably were concentrated there prior to being sent to the divisions of the army.

Alte Grenadier Kaserne. The 23d Mrt Bn. The 80-mm mortars are probably used only for training purposes by the regiment.

Schlossgarten restricted area. 121st (?) AAA Bn and 126th Gds RL Bn. Recent information indicated that the AAA regiments of the tank and mechanized divisions had medium guns in addition to light guns. As [redacted] it is plausible that the AAA regiments of the tank and mechanized divisions have 16 medium guns. While, [redacted] the rocket launcher battalion had 8 M-13 rocket launchers, it is also possible that it may be organized into 3 batteries with 4 guns to the battery.

Glanbecker See restricted area. The division headquarters.

Restricted area on Fritz Reuter Strasse. The 411th Sig Bn.

Restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse. The 495th How Bn (US). This type of battalion was carried equipped with 12 x 122-mm howitzers. As, however, a large number of sources reported guns in addition to these howitzers, the term howitzer battalion seems no longer justified in the proper sense of the word. There is reason to believe that the battalion has more guns than was concluded [redacted] available information tends to indicate that the artillery unit of a tank division is organized into one battalion with 12 x 122-mm howitzers and 12 76.2-mm field guns and, possibly, even into two battalions with a total of 24 x 76.2-mm guns.

Tiergarten restricted area. No longer occupied by Soviet troops.

Sportlager. The 90th Gds Engr Bn and a supply unit.

Schlosskopel restricted area. An unidentified motor transport battalion.

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Source of paragraphs 1 to 7 was possibly right in assuming that the troops were absent from the post for practices.

25X1 2. [] Comments. Tank units of the 9th Cds Tank Div which returned from field exercises in the area of Rhinsberg-Hirow were previously reported []

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